

# THE LACLEDE BLADE

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A. J. CAYWOOD.

Friday, April 27, 1917

## Hoes And Rifles

The agitation for an enlarged crop of staple foods which is being carried, on so energetically—and we hope successfully—in all parts of the country has a basis in sound theory. Napier, the great European military commentator, has graphically compared an army to a snake, in that it moves upon its belly. The provisioning of the armies which we must raise as our just contribution to the fighting side of the war is of prime consideration. In addition, we must continue our stream of supplies to the armies of our allies already in the field. And besides this we must provide for our own population at home when so many hundreds of thousands of workers are taken from productive pursuits and put into the ranks. Just now the man with the hoe is of equal importance with the man with the rifle.

## Don't Overlook Import Duties

While casting about for forms of taxation to raise the money necessary for the expense of the war, congress should not spend all of its time looking for new means of direct taxation. There is a means of indirect taxation which has proved itself through the years as capable of developing large sums of money and capable at the same time of developing the nation's ability to pay other taxes upon property which grows out of the indirect taxation plan. We refer, of course, to a protective tariff, which puts money into the treasury from the custom houses and which causes factories to be built here from which direct taxation is made possible.

## Burlington Aiding Farmers.

Stirred by the high sense of the present opportunity to be of the greatest service to our country, officials of the Burlington have launched a campaign to co-operate with Uncle Sam to increase the production of all farm products in the eleven great agricultural states traversed by its lines.

Bulletins are now being sent out by Agricultural Agent Lamson to agents everywhere, calling the attention of farmers to the fact that the success of America in this war depends upon the agricultural production; also that there is no danger of over production, that there is a great danger of under production, that supplies of food stuff on hand are limited and that the demand for all farm products will be great and the prices high. The suggestion is made that farmers begin preparing their seed beds now, plant seed that they know will grow—testing it beforehand, and to practice thorough, clean cultivation throughout the season to insure the extermination of weeds.

Attention is also directed to the fact that the agricultural department of the Burlington road is prepared to aid farmers along its lines, can help them get good seed, test it and treat for disease and offers the benefit of its organization and experience.

"Jellyfish Patriotism," is a new one and is applied to the fellow who has money and is buying up supplies and hoarding them away. Mountain Grove and in fact all the less fortunate to go with Frisco stations in this and other out or pay the higher prices caused by the shortage due from the express company operate. These hoarding by the "jellyfish."

## What's Doing In Washington

A proposition to provide a school for the training of negro soldiers has been submitted to congress by Representative Richard W. Austin of Tennessee in the form of a bill which he introduced naming a group of men to be known as the Negro Military School Commission. \$35,000 is appropriated for their expenses, and their duties will be to select a site and erect a military school thereon to cost not to exceed \$1,000,000. In former wars the negro soldiers have demonstrated their fighting qualities, which Mr. Austin thinks might well be utilized at the present time. By proper training a very efficient organization of colored troops could become a valuable unit in our military establishment in the future.

Congressman Edward W. Gray of New Jersey, in his eight years' experience as a member of the New Jersey state board of tenement house supervision, has acquired a very close and sympathetic knowledge of labor conditions in his state. "I think I understand," says Mr. Gray, "perhaps better than the average man, labor's desires, ambitions and aspirations." He believes in the extension of the eight-hour day where it can be adjusted to the peculiar conditions of a business, and while Mr. Gray is a friend of the labor union he supports the principle of arbitration, and thinks that congress should create a body whose duty it would be to investigate and arbitrate great labor disputes.

Nine months after the close of the fiscal year ended June 30, 1916, finds the public still waiting for the annual volume entitled "Commerce and Navigation of the United States," a publication of the department of commerce giving statistics of our import and export trade with the world. The whole country at this time is studying as never before our foreign trade. The Monthly Summary issued by the department of commerce is unsatisfactory, merely showing imports and exports, without, except in a few instances, showing with what countries trade in the various commodities is carried on. It is exasperating for students of foreign trade to be compelled to await the pleasure of the department of commerce in publishing the annual volume; and there is no excuse for the delay. On the 20th of January, 1917, the statistics of British import and export trade for the entire calendar year 1916 were in the hands of parties interested on this side of the water.

Senators and Congressman are receiving many letters from constituents who are anxious to enter the secret service of the government. Little encouragement can be given to such men, however, as thousands of similar applications are now on file with the secret service, and word has gone out from that bureau that all men the available appropriations can support are now employed, and no vacancies exist.

## Frisco Enforces Dry Sentiment

The following article is clipped from the Mountain Grove Journal and it shows how a great railroad company can help to enforce the local option law along its line:

Friends of temperance will be glad to know that whiskey and beer are going to be a little harder to get in the territory around Mountain Grove and in fact all Frisco stations in this and other states where it and the Southern express company operate. These two companies have instructed

their agents not to receive or deliver intoxicants consigned to prohibition territory, and on orders this week the agent here shipped back to consignors all intoxicants that had been awaiting delivery at the depot. The "bone dry" law recently passed by congress prohibits interstate shipping of intoxicants to dry territory, and many of the prosecuting attorneys hold that the local option law of Missouri prohibits carrying, delivering or storing of liquors, even for personal use. These companies have decided to take no further risks and will go out of this business unless the matter is taken to the courts.

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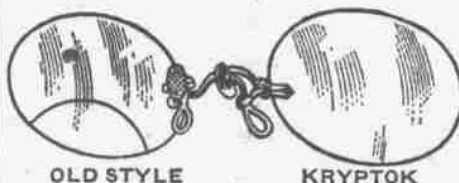
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TUNIS 56663



The Plum Grove Percheron Horse Co.'s Fine Percheron Stallion, Tunis 56663, will make the season of 1917, at the O. A. Potter Barn 3 miles Northwest of Laclede at \$12.50 to insure living foal.

Tunis is a dapple grey. Foaled May 14, 1907; bred by H. C. Davis of Ames, Iowa. He is a draft horse in every sense of the word; blocky made, with smooth finish, good quality and action, and is a first-class horse in every respect. Weight 1900. He is absolutely sound and carries as good draft blood as there is in the country. See this horse if you are looking for a good specimen of the Percheron family.

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